

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Stapler ~~(1)~~ for stapling together a workpiece ~~(15)~~, ~~primarily a sheaf of papers~~, with a staple ~~(11)~~, which stapler comprises a base part ~~(2)~~ and a stapling unit ~~(3)~~ which, ~~by means of connecting devices (4)~~, are connected in such manner that they can be moved towards and away from each other in a reciprocating stapling movement ~~(R)~~, and which stapling unit incorporates a magazine ~~(9)~~ in which staples ~~(11)~~ are stored and a driver ~~(14)~~ which, during the stapling movement, drives a staple which is formed into a shape ~~consisting of~~ including a first leg and a second leg ~~(40, 41)~~ with an intermediate crown ~~(42)~~ through an outlet opening ~~(13)~~ connected to the magazine, and in which the base part ~~consists of~~ includes a lower part ~~(5)~~ and an upper part ~~(6)~~, which is connected to the lower part in such manner that it can be moved towards and away from the lower part, and between which parts is arranged a first elastic element ~~(8)~~ which, in an initial position, ~~moves~~ urges the upper and lower parts apart, the upper part being provided with a surface ~~(16)~~ on which the workpiece to

be stapled is placed and in which surface is arranged an opening ~~(31)~~ through which the legs of the staple driven by the driver pass after the legs have been driven through the workpiece, and to which upper part bending devices ~~(21,22)~~ are arranged pivotably about individual pivot pins ~~(25,26)~~ are connected in the area under the opening, the upper part, in the initial position, being blocked from being moved in a downward direction towards the lower part by ~~means of~~ a blocking arrangement ~~(21,22,25,26,44,45)~~ when the driver drives the staple legs through the workpiece, and which blocking ~~device~~ arrangement is disengaged by ~~means of~~ a releasing ~~device~~ arrangement ~~(53,54,55,56)~~ when the driver has driven the staple to a position in which the staple crown ~~(42)~~ is in contact with the upper surface ~~(17)~~ of the workpiece ~~(15)~~, whereupon the upper part and stapling unit are moved towards the lower part, causing the bending devices, by interaction with the lower part, to be moved, by pivoting about their respective pivot pins, in a direction towards the upper part, whereupon the staple legs are moved by the bending devices against the underside ~~(18)~~ of the workpiece, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the blocking arrangement comprises the bending devices ~~(21,22)~~ which, in the initial position, are in blocking contact with the lower part ~~(5)~~, preventing the upper part ~~(6)~~ from being moved in the

direction of the lower part and in that the releasing arrangement comprises releasing legs ~~(53,54)~~ arranged on the stapling unit ~~(3)~~, which interact with releasing devices ~~(55,56)~~ arranged on the bending devices to release the bending devices from the blocking position.

2. (currently amended) Stapler ~~(1)~~ in accordance with claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices ~~(21,22)~~ are provided respectively with a first contact point ~~(47,48)~~ which, in the initial position, are in contact individually with the lower part ~~(5)~~ at respective second contact points ~~(49,50)~~, each of which points is located essentially directly below the pivot centre ~~(51,52)~~ of a respective bending device.

3. (currently amended) Stapler ~~(1)~~ in accordance with ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices ~~(21,22)~~ are moved to their initial position by an ~~third~~ elastic element ~~(36)~~.

4. (currently amended) Stapler ~~(1)~~ in accordance with ~~any of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices ~~(21,22)~~ are prevented by latches ~~(61)~~ from

being pivoted in a direction opposite to that in which the bending devices bend the staple legs.

5. (new) Stapler in accordance with claim 2, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices are moved to their initial position by an elastic element.

6. (new) Stapler in accordance with claim 5, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices are prevented by latches from being pivoted in a direction opposite to that in which the bending devices bend the staple legs.

7. (new) Stapler in accordance with claim 2, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices are prevented by latches from being pivoted in a direction opposite to that in which the bending devices bend the staple legs.

8. (new) Stapler in accordance with claim 3, CHARACTERISED IN THAT the bending devices are prevented by latches from being pivoted in a direction opposite to that in which the bending devices bend the staple legs.